

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01337 051151Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

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R 051044Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4066

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BANFKO

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCMMTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN NEW YORK 0970

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 1337

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, SS, SG

SUBJ: SENEGALESE OFFICIAL SAYS POLICY ON ANGOLA UNCHANGED,

COMMENTS ON POLISARIO

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 01337 051151Z

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR TOLD AMBASSADOR FEB. 22 GOS POSITION ON ANGOLA REMAINED UNCHANGED, SINCE IT WAS BASED ON PRINCIPLE. IN WAKE OF OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS' DEADLOCK ON QUESTION OF POLISARIO RECOGNITION, HE POINTED OUT INCREASED ROLE OF IDEOLOGY IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT RADICALS HAD BEEN LESS SUCCESSFUL IN CASE OF POLISARIO THAN WITH MPLA DUE TO SOVIET UNION'S RELUCTANCE TO JEOPARDIZE ITS INTERESTS IN MOROCCO. END SUMMARY

2. IN MARCH 2 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, FOREIGN MINISTRY CABINET DIRECTOR YOUSSEPH SYLLA SAID SENEGAL HAD TAKEN NOTE OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN PRESIDENTS MOBUTU AND NETO BUT DID NOT INTEND TO CHANGE ITS POSITION ON ANGOLA. CITING SENEGAL'S SUPPORT OF ALVOR ACCORDS, HE SAID THERE WERE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES INVOLVED. COMMENT: HIS REFERENCE TO NOT CHANGING SENEGAL'S ANGOLA POLICY IN VIEW OF PRINCIPLES AT STAKE PARALLELED PUBLIC REMARKS BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR ON FEB. 22 (DAKAR 1068), BUT SYLLA LEFT INFERENCE THAT SENEGAL MIGHT CONSIDER MOVING TOWARD DE FACTO RECOGNITION WITHOUT ANNOUNCING FORMAL DECISION TO RECOGNIZE RPA. END COMMENT.

3. SYLLA ALSO COMMENTED BRIEFLY ON DEADLOCK ON OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS ON QUESTION OF POLISARIO RECOGNITION. HE OBSERVED THAT IDEOLOGY WAS HAVING AN INCREASING ROLE IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS, WITH ALGERIA CLEARLY LEADER OF MARXIST/RADICAL CAMP. WHILE ALGERIA'S POSITION OFTEN COINCIDED WITH THAT OF SOVIET UNION, HE CONSIDERED IT INCORRECT TO SAY THAT ALGERIANS WERE TAKING ORDERS FROM USSR. HOWEVER, HE FELT THAT RADICALS HAD BEEN LESS SUCCESSFUL IN MOBILIZING SUPPORT FOR RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO THAN THEY HAD BEEN IN CASE OF MPLA DUE TO SOVIET UNION'S INTERESTS IN MOROCCO, WHICH MADE USSR RELUCTANT TO PUSH TOO HARD ON POLISARIO QUESTION. COMMENT: WARNINGS OVER DIVISIVE IMPACT OF IDEOLOGY ON AFRICAN POLITICAL ISSUES HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT SENEGALESE THEME SINCE SPLIT BETWEEN "MODERATES" AND "RADICALS" BEGAN TO TAKE SHAPE ON ANGOLAN QUESTION. AGGREY

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